



Docket Number: 112559.00002

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant:** Michael D. DeGould  
**Application No.** 10/640,366  
**Filed:** August 13, 2003  
**For:** BIORESORBABLE TOOTH EXTRACTION SOCKET DRESSING  
**Art Unit:** 1614  
**Examiner:** Zohreh Vakili

**DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.132**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

1. I am the named inventor for the above-identified patent application.
2. I read the comments in the Office Action of February 9, 2006 regarding the enablement of claims 1-24 for the prevention of alveolar osteitis.
3. My claim of prevention of alveolar osteitis and pain is a logical deduction from the clinical observation that recurrent extraction site pain (onset 3 to 7 days post surgery) has been treated with salves and cotton dressing materials for over 100 years. The common thread among these treatments is that they provide an intimate separation of bone from the environment.
4. I have also read U.S. Patent No. 5,972,366 which was cited in the Office Action of February 9, 2006. U.S. Patent No. 5,972,366 discusses implantable collagen foam sponges as a vehicle for drug delivery. Collagen sponges are not flowable, lack any chemical or mechanical adhesive ability, and have only a 12 to 36 hour residence time in the oral cavity. Collagen sponges are unable to achieve the intimate flow into bone interstices to provide a resilient, long

lasting barrier to the oral environment. Collagen sponges are extremely friable, short lived in the oral cavity, and lack the ability for intimate prolonged bony contact.

5. I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the above-identified application or any patent issuing thereon.

Dated: May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2006



Michael D. DeGould